

ST. AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY

HECKER, ILLINOIS 62248

REV. LINUS UMOREN, ADMINISTRATOR

PARISH OFFICE 618-473-2217 FAX 618-473-9141

E-MAIL ADDRESS: staug@htc.net

PARISH WEBSITE: <https://www.staugustineofcanterburyhecker.com>

**To contact Father Linus Umoren, CM; when not in Parish Office,
Cell #618-666-2217**

St. Vincent de Paul Help Line 618-792-4059

House of Neighborly Service Help Line 618-939-8680

Confessions: heard each Saturday night from 4 to 4:45 pm

Parish Office Hours: Mondays and Thursdays, 8:30 am to 3:00 pm.

VOL. 59 NO. 3– January 21st, 2024

THEME FOR THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME:

MASS INTENTIONS:

Fri. 1/19 8:00am- Lois Papenberg, Marvin Eckart, and Ruth Cortner

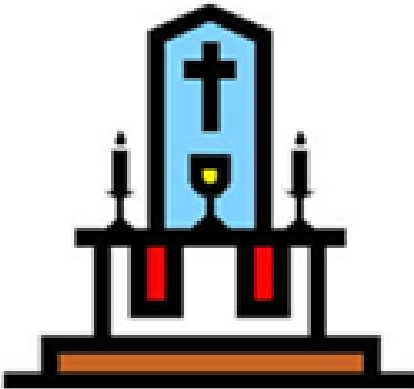
Sat. 1/20 5:00pm- For Our Parish at St. Augustine's

Sun. 1/21 8:00am- Dennis Karban

Fri. 1/26 8:00am- Norbert Wittenauer

Sat. 1/27 5:00pm- For Our Parish at St. Augustine's

Sun. 1/28 8:00am- Roy Schreder and Jerry Mollet



OUR SACRIFICE MADE TO GOD FROM 1/14/2024:

Envelopes (53)-\$1,932.00

Loose- \$108.00

Youth- \$11.00

Parking Lot/Resolution Projects Donations-**\$2,700.00**

*Scholarship Fund - \$1,910.00 (Total
Donated since 8/1/2023)*

Thank you very much for your generosity!

SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, January 27th, 5:00pm

Set Up: Joan Powell
Servers: Grace and Braden Koester
Lector: Cindy Grohmann
Extraordinary Minister: Ruth Wittenauer
Extraordinary Minister (W): Joan Powell
Extraordinary Minister (W): Annette Schreder
Camera:

Sunday, January 28st, 8:00am

Set Up: Margie Holle
Servers:
Lector: Betty Schreder
Extraordinary Minister: Margie Holle
Extraordinary Minister (W): John Kaiser
Extraordinary Minister (W): May Stellhorn
Camera:

Please pray for the following:

Darlene Frisch, Jeanelle Dinan, Marge Abel, Madalyn Killebrew, Kenny Kern, Marcia Rheinecker, Ricky Wittenauer, Ava Kern, Nancy Grohmann, Jim & Joanne Cowell, Helen Parker, Mike Rheinecker, Evelyn Kelley Marquart, Roger Cortner, Frank Kohler, Josh Middendorf, Ethel Mae Kreher, Shirley Wittenauer, Annette Lovelace, Mel Parker, Debra Harbaugh, Geri Griffin, Melissa Stellhorn, and Rhonda Mehring-Smith.

For Active Service Personnel: Justin S. Bushong, United States Coast Guard, Austin Grohmann, United States Marine Corps, and Austin Gregson, United States Marine Corps.



Thank You

Dear Parish Family,

I want to sincerely thank you for the kindness that you have shown me through my recovery. Since I broke my shoulder, I have seen Jesus in so many people!

God is Amazing!!!!

Thank you to the Meal Train friends.

All of you are Life Savers! I could barely get to the kitchen much less safely cook a meal.

Thank you for the cards and texts and phone calls.

All of them lifted my spirits immensely.

I'm still going through physical therapy and I'm still under the care of an Orthopedic doctor, but my shoulder is healing wonderfully. I continue to lift all of you in my prayers of thanksgiving.

Debbie Harbaugh

FROM THE PASTOR...

FR. LINUS UMOREN. C.M.

Reflection Third Sunday in Ordinary Time year B

A teacher asked her class what they knew about whales. One little girl spoke up and said that a whale swallowed Jonah. The teacher smiled and said she didn't think that was very likely because, even though whales can be big, their throats are not big enough to swallow a man. But the little girl was adamant and maintained that a whale swallowed Jonah. The teacher became impatient and reiterated that this was physically unlikely. But the girl was unmoved and said she would ask Jonah when she got to heaven. "But what if Jonah went to hell?" the teacher asked. The girl replied: "Then you ask him."

The Book of Jonah is one of my favorite books in the bible. I began to enjoy reading Jonah as a fifth grader. I remember how, on one occasion, when my mother explained the story of the fish that swallowed Jonah, I asked her how Jonah could eat for the days he was in the belly of the fish. I am sure what most people remember about the book of Jonah is how a man spent three days in the belly of a whale. The book of Jonah is presented to us as a prophetic book. Although it is not an ordinary prophetic book because it does not consist of the prophet's oracles, it is a prose narrative about the activity and the presumptions of the prophet himself.

Still, other than that, it could also be appreciated as a satire (*the use of humor to communicate some truth*) on religious narrow-mindedness. Jonah could be seen as a character representing many religious people who see God through the narrow confines of their cultural and faith biases. But God is more compassionate and caring for all his creatures than we can ever represent or imagine. Like most religious people, Jonah thought God could only be found in Israel or the temple. He thought he could escape God by running from Israel and that God could not include the pagan people of Nineveh in his plan of salvation. But God brought him to the understanding that He is everywhere and God for all His creatures.

In the first reading this weekend, the prophet Jonah speaks an urgent message to the people of Nineveh. "Forty days more, and Nineveh will be destroyed." Surprisingly, the Ninevites heard it and repented their sins, and their city was spared. This shows that God is more interested in our repentance and coming back to him. Thus, anyone could be saved by God at any time. However, one of the challenges that religious people face always is the belief that the kingdom of God is exclusively theirs. But the kingdom of God is greater than any one culture or race. Church membership is no guarantee for salvation. Instead, repentance and embracing the path of Christ in the Gospels is about turning around and reorienting one's whole attitude towards God. There is something greater than Jonah here.



St. Augustine's Parish ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Monday, January 22nd, 2024, 7pm- 200th Year Celebration Meeting @ Parish Center
- Monday, January 29th, 2024, 7pm- Parish Council Meeting
- Blessing of the Throats will take place after Mass the weekend of February 3rd & 4th
- Tuesday, February 6th, 2024- Ladies Sodality Meeting 7pm
- Ash Wednesday is Wednesday, February 14th, 2024. Mass TBA.
- The Knights of Columbus Meeting has moved to Wednesday, February 21st to accommodate Ash Wednesday.
- Super Bowl Bingo, Sunday, February 11th, 2024 Chicken Dinner served 10:30-1pm, Bingo Starting @1:30pm, HCC, Lightning Round, Prizes and more!
- Kirchenfest 2024, Saturday, August 17th, 2024 (Mark your calendars now!)
- Saturday, October 19th, 2024- St. Augustine's 200th Year Celebration Mass/Dinner

*****If you would like to help in any capacity at the upcoming indoor Super Bowl Bingo event on Sunday, February 11th, please contact the Parish office through email at staug@htc.net or call during Parish office hours 2 618-473-2217!! We would use your help!!*****



Happy birthday to Father John!!! His birthday is on January 23rd!! May God bless you abundantly this next year!!! Thanks for all you do for all three parishes in our partnership!!!!!!



NEWS FROM GIBUALT HIGH SCHOOL

Alumni Basketball Game

Calling all Hawks! Join us on January 27 for our Alumni Basketball Game at 4 p.m. Come out to play or just to cheer on some of your favorite Hawks from the past! Interested players should RSVP to Kelly at kday@gibaulthawks.com. Player registration is \$25 and includes a t-shirt. Make it a whole evening at Gibault and stay as the Hawks take on Red Bud. JV begins at 5:15 p.m., with Varsity to follow!

Raffle-Mania

Raffle-Mania is back with bigger prizes! This year's grand prize has **DOUBLED** to **\$5,000!** Visit <https://givebutter.com/Raffle-Mania> to purchase your tickets!

GRAND PRIZES of \$5000, \$1000, \$500, and \$250, and 6 @ \$100

Prizes will be drawn on February 1st during Catholic Schools Week.

Tickets are being sold exclusively online. If anyone has difficulty with their online purchase, contact Desiree Frasure at Gibault Catholic High School. (dfrasure@gibaulthawks.com or 618-939-3883)

Bunco Night

Join the Gibault Women's Club for their Bunco Night on Jan. 19.

Apply to the Class of 2028

There's still time to get your application in! Apply by Jan. 26, 2024, in order to be part of this year's Acceptance Day festivities. Application available at: <https://bit.ly/GCHSApply>

Visit Gibault!

We are accepting Shadow Visitors for the second semester. Your 7th or 8th grader or current high school student can spend the day at Gibault as a Shadow Visitor. Shadows will be matched with a current student with similar interests and together, they'll attend classes, meet teachers, enjoy lunch in our cafeteria, and more! We also offer Private Tours for the whole family. See our campus and get your questions answered by our Director of Enrollment. Get started at: <https://bit.ly/GCHSInquire>



DIOCESAN INFORMATION

RESPECT FOR LIFE CORNER

“There is such a wide spectrum of issues involving the protection of human life and the promotion of human dignity. Good people frequently disagree on which problems to address, which policies to adopt and how best to apply them. But for citizens and elected officials alike, the basic principle is simple: We must begin with a commitment never to intentionally kill, or collude in the killing, of any innocent human life, no matter how broken, unformed, disabled or desperate that life may seem. In other words, the choice of certain ways of acting is always and radically incompatible with the love of God and the dignity of the human person created in His image.” United States Conference of Catholic Bishops “Living the Gospel of Life,” © 1998 USCCB

DIocese of Belleville -- PROJECT RACHEL

Project Rachel is an active ministry in the Diocese of Belleville!!! Planned Parenthood continues to see women (some report one woman every 20 minutes six days a week). It is so vital that we be there for these women to offer free and confidential help in their time of need. It is our hope to continue to foster a sense of compassion in our communities making them a safe place to welcome those who suffer after an abortion and encourage reconciliation and healing in Jesus Christ. Those in need of help and counseling can confidentially contact someone by phone or email. Here's a link to Project Rachel on the diocesan website with additional information: <https://www.diobelle.org/respectlife/project-rachel>.

To stay informed of Pro-Life events in our Diocese, like and follow our FaceBook page, Respect Life Apostolate – Belleville

The Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal 2023

The one who does justice will live in the presence of the Lord - Psalm 15

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul truly serves the poorest of the poor through its Cosgrove's Soup Kitchen, SVDP Thrift Store, Help Center and Night Drop-In Center. Men, women and children are provided the basic necessities of life – food, clothing and shelter – and the hope and the tools they need for a better tomorrow. Help St. Vincent de Paul serve those who have no place else to turn. Please make **your gift** to The Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal today.

Pledges to Date: 36 \$6,403.00 100% of our goal has been matched!!
THANK YOU to all who contributed!!!!!!

2024 VARIOUS QUILT OF THE MONTH RAFFLES IN THE AREA

- **St. Michael, Paderborn – January thru December 2024. \$20 per ticket. 12 Chances to win!!** Picture of quilts available inside Parish office. Contact Sue Walsh 473-2798. Limited number of tickets available in Parish Office at St. Augustine's.
- **St. Patrick's Ruma – January thru December 2024; \$20 per ticket; tickets available in the Parish Office at St. Augustine's. Questions call Kathy Schmidt at 618/284-7274.**
- **St. James, Millstadt – Quilt-A-Rama, Tickets drawn the first Monday of every month during 2024. Tickets are \$25.00 each. See your Parish Office for tickets or contact St. James, 618/476-3513.**
- **Our Lady of Good Counsel Renault Quilt of the Month!** Tickets are \$25.00 each for the year of drawings. Winner goes back into the box for a chance to be drawn next month. Please call Phyllis at 618-458-6854 or text Lisa 618-444-5544 to purchase a ticket.
- **Holy Trinity Catholic Church- St. Ann's CCW, Quilt of the Month Raffle 2024** Tickets are \$25.00 each, drawings are held 2nd Wednesday of each month; Contact Carol Geluck for more info! 618-792-9439.



Today's Gospel is the story of Jesus beginning His Church on earth. He calls Peter and Andrew to be "fishers of men". He likewise enlists James and John to follow Him. We are ALL called to be fishers of men, women, and children through the example of our daily lives. We are charged with "abandoning our nets" and help each other to live the vocation we've each been uniquely called to. We need to minimally pray each day for an increase in vocations to the Priesthood and Consecrated Religious Life.



The Serra Club of St. County is an organization of Catholic men and women dedicated to foster and affirm vocations to the Priesthood and vowed religious life. Our purpose is to pray for vocations and inform our community the need for vocations. We provide many social events for our Priests, Deacons and Nuns. We sponsor occasional visits to the Seminaries for our grade and high students guided by a priest or a seminarian. Our group meets every first and third Friday of the month at Corpus Christi Parish Hall 206 Rasp St. Shiloh, IL 62269. We begin Mass at 11:00 am, follow by lunch and a brief meeting, and a prominent speaker. Additional information please call Marvin Winkeler (402 214-1155 or Mel Lucash 618-531-4244 **Serra has a new web page: serrastclair.org**

PLEASE PRAY FOR VOCATIONS!



Ss. Peter & Paul Women's ACTS Retreat Coming Soon – February 8-11, 2024

Are you craving rest? Meaningful friendships? A closer relationship with Jesus? A Church on fire? If so, please join some amazing women on our upcoming ACTS retreat!

All women over the age of 18 are invited to join us for our women's ACTS retreat to be held February 8-11, 2024 at the King's House at Our Lady of the Snows in Belleville. This parish-based retreat offers the opportunity to renew your spirituality, strengthen your faith and build lasting relationships with women at Ss. Peter & Paul and surrounding parishes. You may register for the retreat through the QR code below and on the parish website (<https://www.ssppcc.org/acts>). The retreat begins on Thursday, February 8th at 6:30pm at Ss. Peter & Paul Church and concludes on Sunday, February 11th at 10am mass at Ss. Peter & Paul. The cost of the retreat is \$295 and includes all lodging, transportation, and meals. We are SO excited to welcome you on this spiritual experience – **PLEASE REGISTER SOON!** If you have any questions, please contact Courtney Harper at 314.922.8459 or Tara Phillips 618.340.2138.

UPCOMING LOCAL EVENTS- UPDATED WEEKLY!!

- **Queen of Hearts Drawing-** Benefitting Ss. Peter & Paul Catholic School
Tuesdays, Outsiders in Waterloo, IL,
Ticket sales end @6:30pm, drawings are held @ 7pm
- **NEW! Queen of Hearts Drawing-**Benefitting Freeburg High School Athletics
Wednesdays, 6:30pm ticket sales, drawings held at 7pm
- **St. Barbara's Catholic Church- Parish Hall**
2nd and 4th Thursday of each month
305 N Front St, Okawville, IL 62271, Doors open @5pm, Bingo @ 6pm
Food, drinks, and desserts for purchase- All games pay out \$50.00
- **Sunday, January 21, 2024- Our Lady of Victory Country Breakfast**
Sereno Church Hall, 172 PCR 920, HWY 51 North, Perryville, MO
Adults \$10.00, Children \$5.00, Dine in or carry out.
- **Saturday, January 27th, 2024- Hecker Volunteer Fire Department Trivia Night**
at the Hecker Community Center... Silent Auction, raffles, gun raffle, and cash prizes for Trivia...call 618-473-2597 for reservations!
- **Saturday, February 24th, 2024- Hecker Community Center Chicken & Beer Dance...** Music by Freefall. Call 618-473-2970 for ticket information.



Ss. Peter & Paul Catholic Church

204 W. Mill Street, Waterloo, IL 62298

(618) 939-6426

Eucharistic Revival

You may have noticed a new Eucharistic Revival poster on display in church. This is one of 3 posters regarding the National Eucharistic Revival that will be on display on a rotating basis between our partner parishes for the next several months. This past June we started our Year of Parish Eucharistic Revival, a phase of the National Eucharistic Revival (started in June 2022) that is focused on revival at the parish level. The National Eucharistic Revival is a movement to restore understanding and devotion to this great mystery here in the United States by helping us renew our worship of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist. The posters on display in our parishes address the upcoming Eucharistic Congress in July 2024 in Indianapolis (the last Eucharistic Congress was 83 years ago), the Eucharistic Pilgrimages that will be making their way to the Eucharistic Congress from across the country including one that goes through our diocese on July 7 & 8, 2024, and general information about the Eucharistic Revival.

More information on all of this can be found at <https://www.eucharisticrevival.org/>. Keep an eye out in the bulletin, parish websites, and Facebook pages for opportunities for you to learn more about, experience, get involved, and maybe re-engage you in your faith, especially focused on our belief and understanding in the Eucharist. If you haven't had an encounter with Jesus in the Eucharist, this will be an opportunity for what might be transformative for you.

- Deacon Tom Helfrich

**ST. AUGUSTINE CHURCH
HECKER, ILLINOIS**

(15 miles South of Belleville on State Route 159)

SUPER BOWL SUNDAY



QUILT/CASH BINGO

FEBRUARY 11th, 2024

**Hecker Community Center
Hecker, Illinois
Smoke Free Facility**



Lightning Round Prior to Bingo

BINGO 1:30 P.M.

No one under 18 allowed in hall during bingo. BL #50884

Attendance Prizes – Raffle – Pot of Gold

Fried Chicken & Pork Sausage Plates

Serving 10:00 am-1:00 pm